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Punishment BeatingsSpeaking Points

- We have made it clear on many occasions that these beatings are a matter of the gravest concern and are entirely inconsistent with the peace process. Such acts are totally reprehensible and anti-democratic practices.

- The widespread public abhorrence of these beatings means they are very damaging both to the perception of the Republican movement and of the peace process as a whole.

- This applies equally to beatings carried out by Republican related groups such as the new "Citizens against Crime and Drugs".

- There are also worrying reports that guns are carried in some attacks.

- In light of the desire to create public trust and confidence in Sinn Féin's commitment to the democratic process, it is vital that these attacks should be consistently and strongly condemned, and everything possible should be done to prevent them.

Anglo-Irish Division

20 July 1995

'Punishment' BeatingsBackground Note

1. Since the IRA ceasefire in September 1994 there have been approximately 163 such attacks. Of these, 98 may be attributed to Republican activists. This figure is far in excess of the comparable period in 1993/94.
2. We have used our channels to Sinn Féin since the IRA ceasefire to convey the Government's strong concerns in this area.
3. SDLP Councillor Hugh Lewsley has recently been the victim of attack in West Belfast. (SF condemned this attack, which they suggest may have been personal).
4. Reports in recent days have suggested that a group (Citizens Against Crime and Drugs), which has claimed responsibility for a number of attacks in the Newry area, is merely a cover for IRA activity.
5. In a few cases recently guns (or replicas) were said to have been carried.
6. Loyalist paramilitaries, using the cover name of 'Protestant Action Force' last month issues threats against local drug dealers in Larne, Co. Antrim. The group is thought to be a cover name for the UVF. The threat was subsequently lifted. Billy Hutchinson of the Progressive Unionist Party last month admitted that senior Loyalist Paramilitaries were involved in beatings.

7. Sinn Féin and the Loyalist parties have stated that they neither support or condone such attacks. Gerry Adams has called for an end to the attacks, stating that he has always been opposed to them. However he also "explains" them by reference to the unacceptability of the RUC in nationalists areas. David Ervine of the P.U.P. has also called for an end to the beatings.

8. Calls have come from President Clinton, the British Prime Minister, John Major, Sir Patrick Mayhew, and Dr. Marjorie Mowlam among others to end the beatings.

Anglo-Irish Division

20 July 1995

Punishment Beatings since the Ceasefires

Post-IRA Ceasefire

	<u>Loyalist</u>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Unclear</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>September</u>	5	5	1	<u>11</u>
<u>October</u>	11	3		<u>14</u>
<u>November</u>	3	3	1	<u>7</u>
<u>December</u>		4		<u>4</u>

1995

	<u>Loyalist</u>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Unclear</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>January</u>	7	5		<u>12</u>
<u>February</u>	4	24 ¹		<u>28</u>
<u>March</u>	3	12 ²	3	<u>18</u>

¹ The figure for February includes an incident at the Bridge St. Bar, Rostrevor. Sources indicate that the incident was a Republican 'punishment' attack. Six people were injured. The figure also includes an attack on a house in the Ballymagroarty area of Derry in which six people were injured.

² This figure includes beating of man in Coagh, Co. Tyrone during the robbery of two legally held shotguns. It also includes an attack on 7 teenagers in the Twinbrook area of West Belfast

<u>April</u>	1	4 ³	1	<u>6</u>
<u>May</u>	7	17	4	<u>28</u>
<u>June</u>	3	11		<u>14</u>
<u>July</u>	7	10	4	<u>21</u>
<u>Total</u>	51	98	14	<u>163</u>

Clara O'Brien
Anglo-Irish Division, 20 July 1995

³According to media reports, 10 people were injured in an attack in Andersonstown, although the Situation Report from the Secretariat stated that just 2 people were injured.

RUC believes IRA is using cover-name to carry out beatings

By Gerry Moriarty,
in Belfast

POLICE sources in the North believe that a previously unknown organisation, Citizens Against Crime and Drugs, which admitted recent so-called punishment beatings in Newry, is a cover-name for the local IRA.

The organisation has stated that its actions have been directed at criminal and drug-dealing elements in the Newry and south Armagh area. But in an official statement yesterday, the RUC said the organisation, if genuine, was intent on "wreaking vengeance on members of the community, without any justification whatsoever".

However, police sources said they "were convinced" that the group was the IRA under another guise. During the past two weeks, two young Newry men have been severely beaten in separate punishment attacks.

In the most recent, on Monday morning, the gang responsible claimed to be from the IRA, while in the other attack 12 days

ago the victim had been previously threatened by the IRA.

The Workers' Party in Newry said that the IRA in Newry and south Armagh had previously used names of convenience when it suited its purposes. For instance, it called itself the Republican Action Force when killing 10 Protestant workmen at Kingsmills in 1976.

"This is simply the Provisionals under another guise enforcing their own brand of brutality on the community," said a party spokesman.

Meanwhile, an 18-year-old man was being treated in hospital after he was beaten up by men wielding cudgels in Andersonstown, west Belfast, on Monday evening.

Since the IRA ceasefire, republicans have carried out 98 punishment beatings while loyalists have carried out 59. This is far in excess of the number of beatings in the comparable period prior to the ceasefires when a total of about 30 beatings were carried out.

Missing PersonsSpeaking Notes

- We are very mindful of the tragedy of those people missing as a result of the situation in Northern Ireland. The Government are of the view that anyone with knowledge as to the whereabouts of the bodies of the victims should come forward with the information.
- We will continue to encourage all who are in a position to do so to work to end the suffering and uncertainty of the relatives and permit them to grieve for their dead.
- Apart from humane considerations, this would also have value as a demonstration of goodwill and of the permanence of the ceasefires.
- We would appeal to Sinn Féin to exercise their influence to ensure that the necessary information reaches the relatives and the problem is resolved.
- We were encouraged by the positive approach Sinn Féin indicated to us earlier on this issue and wonder what progress has been made.

Missing BodiesBackground Note

1. A campaign to recover the missing bodies of presumed victims of the IRA was launched in the media by the Belfast Telegraph and the Sunday World in April this year. The names of 13 missing persons have been listed in connection with the campaign, although there are estimates that as many as 20 such cases may exist.
2. The main spokesperson for the group 'Families of the Disappeared' is Séamus McKendry, a son-in-law of Jean McConville, one of the victims.
3. There have been reports that Mr. McKendry has been contacted by individuals in East Belfast with a view to campaigning for the recovery of missing victims of Loyalist violence.
4. The group's intentions have been supported by Fr. Denis Faul and Dr. Joe Hendron M.P., and the human rights group, Families Against Intimidation and Terror. Minister of State, Michael Ancram has raised the matter with Sinn Féin during their exploratory dialogue. The British Prime Minister, John Major has also pledged to look into the matter during a discussion with one of the relatives. It was also mentioned by President Clinton in his speech to the Washington Conference.
5. Gerry Adams has stated that anyone with information about any of those missing should contact the families. He has also held meetings with family members on a number of occasions. While challenging some individual cases, he indicated privately to the Government his willingness to

be helpful. However, campaign members have criticised Sinn Féin inaction in the matter.

6. Ministerial correspondence has been received from 'Families of the Disappeared' seeking a meeting with the Tánaiste to discuss the matter.

7. Claims have been made by former IRA members that the bodies are buried on the Black Mountain, outside Belfast. There are also claims that several bodies were concealed on a building site in the Glen Road area of West Belfast. Reports also indicate that the RUC has appointed a senior officer to investigate information relating to the cases.

Anglo-Irish Division

20 July 1995

LOG OF MISSING PERSONS (PRESUMED DEAD)
AS A RESULT OF NORTHERN IRELAND SITUATION

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Missing Since</u>
1.	Jean McConville	37	7/12/1972
2.	Kevin McKee		1972
3.	Seamus Wright		1972/1974 (?)
4.	John McIlroy		1974
5.	Patrick Mooney	28	8/1976
6.	Columba McVeigh	17	1977
7.	Capt Robert Nairac		14/5/1977
8.	Brian Kinney	22	5/1978
9.	John McClory	18	5/1978
10.	Gerald Evans		27/3/1979
11.	Charlie Armstrong	55	1981
12.	Sean Murphy	25	4/12/1981
13.	Patrick McCoy	59	7/1983 ¹
14.	Séamus Ruddy		1985 ²

¹These instances have been gleaned from media coverage of this issue in recent days.

²Reputed to have been murdered by INLA on continent